



DAVID Y. IGE
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TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2015

Friday, January 30, 2015
10:10 a.m.

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL NO. 576 – RELATING TO THE STATE AFFORDABLE
CARE ACT INNOVATION WAIVER.**

TO THE HONORABLE DELLA AU BELATTI, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Gordon Ito, State Insurance Commissioner (“Commissioner”),
testifying on behalf of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
(“Department”). The Department supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to amend the scope of the State Innovation Waiver
Task Force established by Act 158, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, to conform with the
requirements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009 Section 1332
(waiver for state innovation), and provide the resources to carry out the development of
a waiver as mandated by Act 158.

We thank this Committee for the opportunity to present testimony on this matter,
and ask for your favorable consideration.

creagan3 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 3:39 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: lorrin.kim@doh.hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB576 on Jan 30, 2015 10:10AM
Attachments: HTH_HB576_HLT_013015.pdf

HB576

Submitted on: 1/29/2015

Testimony for HLT on Jan 30, 2015 10:10AM in Conference Room 329

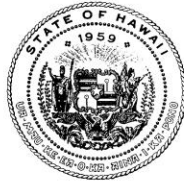
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lorrin Kim	Department of Health	Support	No

Comments:

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VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

**WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY**

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB576
RELATING TO THE STATE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT INNOVATION WAIVER**

REP. DELLA BELATTI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: January 30, 2015

Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined General Fund appropriation request for the Office of the Governor.

2
3 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health takes no position on the appropriations request in
4 HB576, deferring to the Governor's Executive Budget Request for fiscal priorities.

5
6 The department is an active participant of the State Innovation Waiver Task Force created by Act 158,
7 Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, and does not believe the amendments offered in HB576 will constrain or
8 restrict the Task Force's ability to submit a meaningful plan.

9
10 The House Committee on Health may wish to further amend Act 158, SLH 2014, to set as an additional
11 goal for an Innovation Waiver and plan the preservation of Hawaii's Prepaid Healthcare Act of 1974.

12
13 **Offered Amendments:** N/A



THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

HB 576, Relating to the State Affordable Care Act Innovation Waiver
House Committee on Health
January 30, 2015, 10:10 A.M.
Room 329

Dear Chairwoman Belatti and Members of the House Committee on Health:

My name is Paula Yoshioka, and I am a Senior Vice President at The Queen's Health Systems (QHS). I would like to express my strong support for HB 576, relating to the state of Hawaii's *Affordable Care Act* Innovation Waiver Task Force.

The *Affordable Care Act* (ACA) has expanded access to high-quality, affordable health care to millions of Americans. The ACA also includes a number of initiatives allowing states and providers to innovate ways to increase the quality of care while reducing costs. One of those initiatives is the State Innovation Waiver, which will allow states to implement their own health reform approaches to best fit the needs of their residents.

Supporting the State Innovation Waiver Task Force will allow Hawaii to remain at the forefront of health policy innovation, helping to set examples for the rest of the country. I have full confidence that the current task force members are dedicated to ensuring that any waiver submitted will ensure high-quality, affordable care for our residents. I urge you to support our State Innovation Waiver Task Force and to vote favorably on this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

The mission of The Queen's Health Systems is to fulfill the intent of Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i.



Friday, January 30, 2015
Conference Room #329

House Committee on Health

To: Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Richard Creagan, MD, Vice Chair

From: George Greene
President & CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
HB576 — Relating to the State Affordable Care Act (ACA) Innovation Waiver

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) is a 160 member organization that includes all of the acute care hospitals in Hawaii, the majority of long term care facilities, all the Medicare-certified home health agencies, all hospice programs, as well as other healthcare organizations including durable medical equipment, air and ground ambulance, blood bank and respiratory therapy. In addition to providing quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 20,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of HB576, which provides resources to develop a waiver from certain provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The ACA waiver is an important tool that allows states to amend provisions of the ACA to better support unique circumstances that exist in their healthcare market.

With the passage of Act 158 (SLH 2014), the Healthcare Association of Hawaii was an active participant in the deliberations of the State ACA Innovation Waiver Task Force, and concurs with the findings and recommendations outlined in the report submitted to the legislature. While this task force is not set to be dissolved until 2017, it is clear that resources are sorely needed by the Office of the Governor to meet all the specified requirements and recommendations for the waiver proposal for consideration by the legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 576.



January 30, 2015

The Honorable Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair
House Committee on Health

Re: HB 576 – Relating to the State Affordable Care Act Innovation Waiver

Dear Chair Au Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on HB 576, which is intended to provide funding to complete the work of the State Innovation Waiver Task Force. HMSA strongly supports this Bill.

Even before the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the people of Hawaii already benefitted from a successful health insurance model. We had amongst the lowest uninsured populations and lowest health insurance rates in the nation. We had been doing so well because of the State Prepaid Health Care Act (PHCA).

We truly believe in the primary goal of the ACA – to ensure universal health care coverage in a cost-effective way. But, as we look at ways to reach that goal, it is important that we protect the PHCA and build upon it with an efficient ACA system.

The Task Force offers an opportunity for the State to show the federal government how the PHCA already accomplishes much of the ACA's goals. The innovation waiver application drafted by the Task Force can show the nation how Hawaii's already successful PHCA is best able to co-exist with and complement the ACA. Consequently, it is imperative that the Task Force includes participation by and receive sufficient support from all parties in the health care system. And, HB 576 is an expression of the State's commitment to this effort.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 576. Passage of this Bill by the Committee is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Diesman
Vice President
Government Relations



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Health
Friday, January 30, 2015 at 10:10 A.M.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol**

**RE: HOUSE BILL 576 RELATING TO THE STATE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT
INNOVATION WAIVER**

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 576, which provides resources to develop a waiver from certain provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and appropriates funds.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing over 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Hawaii's innovation in health care has led it to be the only state with a mandated health care policy. While the Hawaii Prepaid Health Care Act has provided affordable health coverage to individuals, ACA has been very expensive in time and money for businesses in Hawaii. We believe this bill helps the state in being focused and successful in obtaining a waiver and minimizing the impact of ACA on employers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

creagan1 - Dannah

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 12:44 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: janetmason@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB576 on Jan 30, 2015 10:10AM
Attachments: Microsoft_Word__LWVHI_TEST_HB_576_ACA_Waiver.pdf

HB576

Submitted on: 1/29/2015

Testimony for HLT on Jan 30, 2015 10:10AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Mason	League of Women Voters of Hawaii	Support	Yes

Comments:

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COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Friday, January 10, 2015, Room 329

HB 576 REALTING TO THE STATE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT INNOVATION WAIVER

TESTIMONY

Joy Marshall Legislative Committee , League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Belatti, Vice-Chair Creagan, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB 576 Relating to the State Affordable Care Act Innovation Wavier that provides resources to prepare a waiver from certain provisions of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

We would be delighted to hear that this wavier will not only keep the State of Hawaii in compliance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, but build on the success of Hawaii's Prepaid Health Care Act. We need an ongoing plan to assure that all Hawaii's residents have access to health insurance that is affordable and meets their needs for health care, wellness and disease prevention.

Since we have already learned that Hawaii's Health Care Connector is not sustainable in the short term and questionably sustainable in the long term, it is incumbent for Hawaii to seek other alternatives to a State-based exchange. The proposed Task Force analysis will resolve the question of the need for a State-based exchange.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

creagan3 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 1:39 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: dstevens@hawaiipca.net
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Categories: Purple Category

HB576

Submitted on: 1/29/2015

Testimony for HLT on Jan 30, 2015 10:10AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Hirokawa	HPCA	Support	No

Comments:

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House Committee on Health

The Hon. Della Au Belatti, Chair

The Hon. Richard P. Creagan, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of House Bill 576
Relating to the State Affordable Care Act Innovation Waiver
Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer
January 31, 2015, 10:10 am, Room 329

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, supports House Bill 576, which provides resources for the creation of a state innovation waiver.

In 2014, the legislature passed Act 158 establishing a state innovation task force that would devise a health care reform plan that would both comply with provisions of the Affordable Care Act and improve the overall functioning of the healthcare system in Hawaii. House Bill 576 seeks to build on that by providing the resources for the formal drafting of this vital plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

creagan3 - Karina

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 7:06 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: michrobins3@myself.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB576 on Jan 30, 2015 10:10AM*

HB576

Submitted on: 1/28/2015

Testimony for HLT on Jan 30, 2015 10:10AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Robinson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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